GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2020
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2002
BIO DIVERSITY IN NORTH EASTERN REGION
V. SAROJA

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

The steps being taken for commercially exploiting the rich biodiversity and to avert destruction of biodiversity in the north eastern region?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

Commercial exploitation of biodiversity is prohibited under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972. The steps being taken for conservation of biodiversity in the North Eastern Region includes:

Setting up of protected areas network consisting of national parks. Wildlife Sanctuaries and Biosphere Reserves, for in-situ conservation.
Identification of wetlands for intensive conservation and management.
Establishing Botanical Gardens, Zoological Parks, Gene Banks for ex-situ conservation.
Financial and technical help under various centrally sponsored schemes namely Project Tiger, Project Elephant, Wetlands, Biosphere Reserves, Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries and eco-development around Protected Areas.

Setting up of Regional and Sub-regional offices for Wildlife Preservation in major export and trade centers of the country to prevent smuggling of wild animals and their products.
Supporting research projects to understand ecosystem functioning and scientific management of protected areas, wetlands, etc.